

**WILLIAMSBURG CITY COUNCIL
WORK SESSION MINUTES
January 10, 2005**

The Williamsburg City Council held a work session on January 10, 2005, 2:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of the Stryker Building.

ATTENDANCE

Present were Ms. Zeidler, Messrs. Scruggs, Chohany and Freiling. Also present were City Manager Tuttle, City Attorney Phillips, and City Clerk Crist. Mr. Haulman was absent because he was traveling.

Staff Attending: Department Heads Hudson, Walentisch, and Assistant City Manager Miller.

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Zeidler called the meeting to order.

OPEN FORUM

Mayor Zeidler opened the comment session.

Ginger Crapse, currently residing at the Resident Inn, 1648 Richmond Road (relocating to 138 Mimosa Drive), addressed Council regarding the cost per pupil that the city pays to the Williamsburg-James City County School System. It was her opinion that the school system is "top heavy" in administration. She had heard that the city's per pupil cost was enough to send a student to private school in the region.

Mayor Zeidler responded that the city and county renegotiate the school contract every five years and the city's contribution is based on the number of city students. The next contract negotiations will begin in January 2006 for the 2007 school year. The city pays a higher per pupil cost based on the State formula because the city is in a larger district and students are provided better services and programs. The Mayor noted that unlike public schools, private schools do not have to accept all students.

Mr. Tuttle offered to call Ms. Crapse with the actual per pupil cost.

BACKGROUND PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS

Mayor Zeidler announced that the agenda item regarding the Comprehensive Plan Process will not be presented today because the City Planner, Mr. Nester, was unexpectedly called away.

Annual Citizens Survey Results, Jodi Miller, Assistant City Manager

Reference for this item was Mr. Tuttle's report dated January 6, 2005 which included a copy of the "Executive Summary" and presentation materials.

Ms. Miller reviewed the results of the tenth annual Citizens Survey and the long term trends. She reviewed the following information:

1. Hampton Roads Comparison (16 localities were surveyed regarding their survey practices).
2. Survey Goals

3. The 2004 Citizen Survey was completed by 126 residents from 300 randomly selected residents.
4. Survey Demographics
5. Overall Weighted Scores 1995-2004
6. 2004 Weighted Scores by Department
7. Weighted Scores by Value, Ease, and Information 1995-2004
8. Weighted Scores by Safety, Beauty, Livability 1996-2004
9. Weighted Scores by Direct Employee Contact 1995-2004
10. City Council Meeting Time Preferences (See attached slides)

Regarding City Council meeting times, Ms. Miller said that 83% of respondents had no preference. Of the 28 citizens who had a preference, 30% preferred 2:00 p.m., 60% preferred 7:00 p.m., and 10% preferred other times.

Ms. Miller concluded the next step in the survey process was for city departments to review and respond to the surveys, and to thank respondents for their comments. The results will be shared with city employees via the Intranet.

Council members appreciated Ms. Miller's work on the survey and were pleased to hear the consistently good results. This valuable information helps in planning how to continue providing quality city services.

Ms. Miller agreed to review the citizen comments to see if there are apparent trends.

Responding to Mr. Chohany, Ms. Miller said that the survey is available to citizens on the city's website and they can take the survey at any time. Mr. Chohany recommended that citizens be reminded of that option in the next issue of the Quarterly Quill (city's newsletter).

Mr. Tuttle will discuss the results during his annual visits with small groups of employees. The Mayor said the city has a good organization and dedicated workers, and asked Mr. Tuttle to thank employees on behalf of City Council.

Comprehensive Plan Process Update, Reed Nester

Presentation deferred until February.

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No additional information was requested.

Correction: Mr. Scruggs corrected that he is Vice-Chair of the Peninsula Workforce Development Consortium, not Chairman, as stated in the ED assessment inventory.

City Council Communications

Neighborhoods Council: Mr. Freiling reported that the Neighborhoods Council is in the process of defining their role as a communication vehicle and their mission statement without duplicating the work of other boards and commissions. They will develop a subcommittee to liaison with city staff.

Schedule of Meetings: January 2005

Council members received a copy of the meeting calendar for January.

Joint City Council/Planning Commission Breakfast Meeting: Mr. Tuttle said the meeting will be held on February 2, 2005, at 7:30 a.m. at the Williamsburg Hospitality House.

Open Forum

Mayor Zeidler opened the comment session.

Ginger Crapse commented that the Citizen Survey results were fascinating, and recommended that different age groups be targeted because the answers to questions and results may vary.

CLOSED SESSION

Mr. Chohany Moved that City Council go into Closed Session pursuant to Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia for the purpose of discussing one personnel matter per subparagraph one, concerning appointments to board and commissions. The Motion Was Seconded by Mr. Freiling.

Recorded Vote on the Motion:

Aye: Freiling, Scruggs, Zeidler, Chohany

No: None

The meeting adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

The Mayor called a five-minute recess.

At 3:00 P.M., Council met in Open Session.

Mr. Chohany Moved the Certification of Closed Meeting. The Motion was Seconded by Mr. Freiling.

Recorded Vote on the Motion:

Aye: Freiling, Scruggs, Zeidler, Chohany

No: None

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

Date: January 10, 2005

Motion: Mr. Chohany; Second: Mr. Freiling

WHEREAS, the City Council of the City of Williamsburg has convened a closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of The Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the City Council that such meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of Williamsburg hereby certifies that, to the best of each member's knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the

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closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed session were heard, discussed or considered by the City of Williamsburg.

VOTE:

Aye: Freiling, Scruggs, Zeidler, Chohany

No: None

Absent During Vote: Mr. Haulman

Absent During Meeting: Mr. Haulman

The meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Approved: February 10, 2005

Shelia Y. Crist
Clerk of Council

Jeanne Zeidler
Mayor